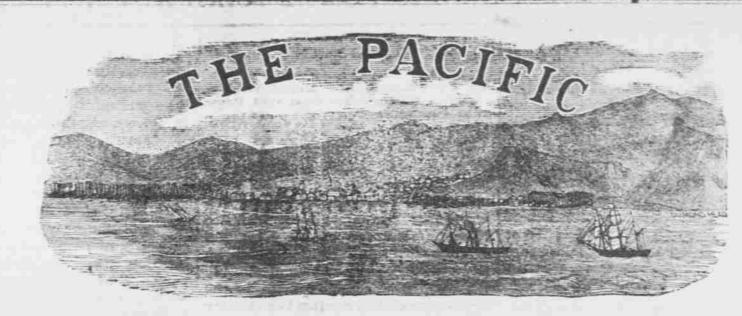
Commercial



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DEAD-BEATS.

A RACE WHICH HAS INCREASED TO AN ALARMING EXTENT.

A Livery-Stable Proprietor's Experience-Hotel and Restaurant Keepers-The Cigar Man and Barkeeper-The Theatre Ticket Seller.

In conversation with a livery-stable proprietor a reporter learned that the race of dead-beats, instead of being extinct, has increased to an alarming extent. "We must be very careful," he said, "how we rent our rigs. No matter how much experience a man may possess in our business he is liable to be done up in first-class style. People with every outward indioffice and ask for buggies for a few hours. SUGAR FACTORS and Commission Lactually don't know whether to make them pay in advance for fear of insulting them, and the result is I am kept pretty busy at times notifying the police of missing rigs. They use up the horse and buggy to their heart's content, and when they are through with them they hitch the horse to some post and that is the last we see of some post and that is the last we see of our friend; yes, sir; in our business we meet with all sorts of dead-beats, genteel and otherwise. It seems to be a passion among certain people to confidence a liveryman, and those are the very men who abuse an animal more than the best pay-

The reporter next ran across an experi-mixer of drinks, and, when asked a question or two about dead-beats, he smiled and said: "In our business we run across a beat every minute of the day. Some of them ask for their drink first, and then try to 'stand me off.' These are of the most troublesome class, for there is no collecting from them, as they haven't a copper in their pocket. Others lean up against the bar, talk about the weather, and politics, and one thing or another; then they confess that they are dead broke, but feel mighty mean in their stomach, and nothing but a latte whisky

stomach, and nothing but a listle whisky would effect a positive cure. Do I trust 'em? No, sir; I know 'em too well for that, and unless they ask for the drink first they never get the best of me."

A proprietor of a third-rate hotel, when asked for information about dead-beats, told the same story as the barkeeper and the liveryman. "We can't drive them away," said he; "they come here in droves day after day, poorly clad, well-dressed, and all sorts of people. Of course, I always cast a longing glance at their baggage, if I have reason to suspect them; but one of them played a mean trick on me the other day. He boarded with me a couple of weeks, and at last disappeared. The first thing I did was to go for his sachel, and when I examined the confounded thing I found it stuffed with old newspapers. Oh, yes, we lose a great deal of money in the course of a year, and only to-day I was thinking of selling out and going into a business where I won't be obliged to encounter so many dead-beats."

The man in the restaurant told the same

The man in the restaurant told the same story. "We are often obliged to trust old customers, simply because we cannot refuse them, and the result is they never come near us again. I encounter deadbeats of every kind—the man who changed his pantaloons and forgot his pocketbook, the fellow who puts on cosmopolitan airs, orders almost everything on the bill of fare and a good imported cigar. His impertinence in asking for a cigar. His impertinence in asking for a few days' time is so astonishing that it almost takes my breath away, and before I can recover he coolly walks out of the

The tobacco and cigar man had a pitla-ble story to relate concerning dead-beats. "We are pestered with them all day long. They ask for cigars, but most of them are quite modest and simply request the loan of a little chewing or smoking tobacco.
The other day I came across the champion dead beat. He was elegantly dressed, and represented himself to be a New York drummer, stopping at the Kennard house, and before he left my place he swindled me out of a box of Henry Clays. I never saw him since and I don't expect I ever will. Oh, yes, we have to keep our eyes open, or else it would be impossible to do any kind of business.

The theater ticket-seller, when ap proached on the same subject, said: "Dead-beats! why, the woods are full of em. People who have no earthly right to ask for free admission walk up to the box-office with all sorts of excuses. After the curtain is up they come here by the dozens with pretenses of every kind. The man whose wife is in the theater wants to know whether he can step in out of the cold; then the fellow who passes himself off as a professional, for having appeared in some amateur performance, and finally the citizen who is in a hurry and is looking for a doctor in the audience."

The reporter listened to the same story everywhere, and finally came to the coninstead of becoming a thing of the past, is gaining in adherents every day.

Generous to a Fauit.

"You may talk as much as you please,' remarked the irascible man; "but let me tell you that I consider your arguments as well as yourself beneath my notice. don't give you so much as a thought. " "I hope not," was the response; "I wouldn't have you bankrupt yourself on my acBusiness Cards.

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